

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 01146 071339Z
ACTION SS-25

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O P 071230Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7373
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 1146

EXDIS

FROM LOW

E.O11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, RH, US, UK
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: SALISBURY LOSING CONTROL IN COUNTRYSIDE

1. GRAHAM AND I HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY A NUMBER OF RELIABLE VISITORS THAT PROTECTED VILLAGES IN A NUMBER OF AREAS OF THE COUNTRY ARE BEING DISMANTLED. THE FORCES WHICH HAD BEEN USED FOR GUARDING THEM ARE BEING ASSIGNED TO PROTECTION OF "COMMERCIAL FARMING ZONES" (WHITE FARMS)

2. WE BELIEVE THIS MEANS THAT THE SECURITY FORCES HAVE NOW DECIDED TO ABANDON AFRICANS IN THE EFFECTED AREAS TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT FORCES. SUCH A DECISION WOULD MAKE IT VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO CARRY OUT ELECTIONS AMONG THE AFRICAN POPULATION THERE. IT FURTHERMORE WOULD LEAVE OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF ACTUAL PF GOVERNMENT OF THE AREAS AND THE BEGINNINGS OF A FOOT HOLD WHICH COULD ULTIMATELY BE DEVELOPED
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INTO "LIBERATED AREAS".

3. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH DAVID SMITH, THE SAME DAY WE WERE INFORMED THAT THE EXECUTIVE AND MINISTERIAL COUNCILS HAVE FINALLY ABANDONED ITS EFFORT TO HOLD RALLIES ADDRESSED BY MINISTER IN TRIBAL TRUST AREAS. WHITE MEMBERS HAD URGED THE AFRICAN TO GIVE IT UP SOME TIME AGO. BUT THEY HAD

INSISTED THAT THEY COULD DEMONSTRATE SUPPORT. AT THE LAST MEETING IN ZWIMBA TTL WHICH WAS THE HOME TOWN OF A NUMBER OF MINISTERS WHERE THEY CONTENTED THEY COULD DEMONSTRATE THEIR SUPPORT, ONLY FIVE PERSONS TURNED UP. SMITH REPEATED THAT THERE WAS NO POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING AN ELECTION WHICH THE REST OF THE WORLD WOULD ACCEPT. A POINT OF VIEW HE SAID, WHICH THEY ARE TRYING TO IMPRESS ON THE AFRICAN MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

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Message Attributes

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